

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Washington, D. C. 20250

2700

JUL 29 1971



Honorable Alan Cranston
United States Senate

Dear Senator Cranston:

This is in response to your letter of July 15 enclosing correspondence and material relating to the development of the Mineral King area into a yearlong family-type recreation area.

We are most appreciative of the views of Dr. and Mrs. Koch and their desire to have the people visiting the Mineral King valley see an opposing view to the planned development. Each of the basic questions raised by the Sierra Club bulletin and accompanying material has been brought before the courts. The future of Mineral King is now before the Supreme Court with a hearing scheduled for the October term of the Court coming up. A decision is not expected until sometime in 1972. A decision for or against the Government will have a major effect on some 84 winter sports areas and resorts throughout the country, as well as on the recreation residence permittees who now enjoy the valley. We understand that the Kochs have one of these permits, and for that reason have a particular interest in the future of Mineral King.

So that you may be fully informed, we are asking Regional Forester Douglas R. Leisz in San Francisco to send you a copy of Forest Supervisor James' reply to Mrs. Koch's letter of July 3, and to provide you with whatever additional comments he feels are appropriate at this time.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter and the material presented by Dr. and Mrs. Koch.

Sincerely,

Deputy Chief

Enclosures

2023.009.0051
6200-11A (1-69)